

25X1

Approved For Release 2003/12/23 : CIA-RDP71B00263R000200340004-7

ORIG: [REDACTED]
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REF: A. [REDACTED]

B. [REDACTED]

1. PROJ HQ AGREES THAT [REDACTED] MISSIONS COULD BE ~~HOME~~
^{LY} PRODUCTIVE ~~IF~~ FLOWN IN CONJUNCTION WITH [REDACTED] MISSIONS, BUT
 BELIEVES THE POSSIBLE ADVANTAGES TO BE DERIVED SHOULD BE CAREFULLY
 WEIGHED AGAINST THE INCREASED THREAT TO SAFETY OF THE [REDACTED]
 AIRCRAFT.

2. WE ARE PRESENTLY PLANNING [REDACTED] MISSIONS TO STAND OFF FROM
 CHINA MAINLAND, ~~35-40 NAUTICAL MILES~~. SINCE THIS IS SOMEWHAT UNIQUE
 IN THE TACKLE OPERATION, IT UNDOUBTEDLY WILL CAUSE CHICOM SPECULATION
 AS TO REASON AND PROBABLY WILL GENERATE HOSTILE REACTION IN FORM OF
 FIGHTER LAUNCH FOR AT LEAST THE FIRST THREE OR FOUR [REDACTED] MISSIONS.
 THIS WOULD TEND TO REMOVE, TO SOME DEGREE, THE ELEMENT OF SURPRISE
 NOW PRESENT IN [REDACTED] MISSIONS. SLOW SPEED OF TACKLE AIRCRAFT
 AND NECESSITY FOR PLACING TACKLE AIRCRAFT IN OPTIMUM POSITION FOR

COORDINATING OFFICERS

RELEASING OFFICER

GROUP 1
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CLASSIFIED MESSAGE

2003/12/23 : CIA-RDP71B00263R000200340004-7

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25X1 [] RECEPTION WOULD, ^{ALSO} PROVIDE CHICOMS INCREASED REACTION TIME IF
25X1 THEY EXPECTED [] MISSIONS AT SAME TIME AS [] MISSION. 25X1

25X1 3. WE THEREFORE ARE ~~SCHEMATIC~~ RELUCTANT TO TAKE CHANCE OF
25X1 JEOPARDIZING SAFETY OF [] AIRCRAFT FOR AN UNKNOWN DEGREE OF
25X1 INCREASED [] EFFECTIVENESS, BUT ARE AGREEABLE TO CONSIDERING
25X1 JOINT [] MISSION IF [] STILL BELIEVES IT A ^{DESIRED} ~~PROPER~~
COURSE OF ACTION. 25X1

25X1 4. IF SUCH A MISSION WERE TO BE FLOWN, RECOMMEND THAT IT BE ON
25X1 A ONE TIME ONLY BASIS AND AFTER SEVERAL [] MISSIONS HAVE BEEN
25X1 FLOWN. THIS WILL PERMIT AN ASSESSMENT OF THE EXTENT OF CHICOM
25X1 FIGHTER REACTION TO [] MISSION AND AN ESTIMATE OF THE RESULTING
25X1 INCREASED THREAT TO THE [] MISSION.

END OF MESSAGE

EO/OSA []

COORDINATING OFFICERS

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